CALPEEK

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HERSCHENSOHN FORMALLY ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY. Two week after he resigned his commentator jobs at KABC-TV & radio, Bruce Herschensohn formally jumped into the GOP U.S. Senate primary for the 6-year seat now held by retiring U.S. Sen. Alan Cranston...

...Although Herschensohn is best noted for his views on foreign and defense policy, on Oct. 14th he pretty much stayed away from those topics and instead picked 2 hot domestic issues to fire at: the just completed U.S. Senate confirmation hearings on Judge Clarence Thomas; and a relatively new topic which works well with voters - Congress Bashing. BH said he was outraged by the way the Senate Judiciary Committee had handled the Thomas hearing (he called the actions a kangeroo court). The 59-year-old Herschensohn also said congress was acting like "royalty" and specifically mentioned the House check bouncing and parking ticket fixing flaps. Just in case you forgot, Herschensohn's chief rival in the GOP primary is U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell...

...As for the campaign itself, BH's main goal for the next several months is dialing for dollars. Campbell has a huge warchest approaching $3 million, while Herschensohn says he now has about $750,000. October is a very heavy fundraising month for BH and he needs to close the fundraising gap with Campbell. However, Herschensohn also says he may not need as much money as Campbell because he is better known in the important So. Calif. media market...

...To get the word out early, the Herschensohn campaign already has a 5-day radio buy on KABC. The 60-second ad features BH himself and the spot is an experiment to see if Herschensohn supporters will call an 800-phone number and contribute money. It is an easy number to remember: (800)659-BRUC. Believe it or not, the 60-sec. ad is NOT considered political by ABC's legal department in NY. And because the spot is NOT running in the 45-day period before the primary, it's not subject to the lowest possible rate. If this spot works, look for BH to use it statewide. Stay tuned...

RECALL DRIVE AIMED AT GOV. WILSON MOVING. For the past several months a group of CA public employees angered at Gov. Pete Wilson's reorganization and raid on the Public Employees Retirement System(PERS) have been collecting signatures on RECALL petitions, in hopes of removing the first term GOP chief executive from office...

...At first, political observers gave the organizers almost NO CHANCE of succeeding, but that feeling has been revised to a very LONG SHOT, unless some large and powerful groups with funding get involved...

...Nevertheless, the recall claims to have collected about 300,000 signatures so far, but are still far short of the 923,937 that must be turned in by Jan. 16, 1992 - if the drive is to succeed. And in order to make sure there are enough valid signatures, recall organizers will attempt to collect 1.2 million names -- just to be safe...

...The recall goes under the official name of RECALL PETE, P.O. Box 160065, Sacramento 95816 - (916)447-1023. Deborah Murray is the recall chairperson...

...Unlike an initiative, where proponents turn in all the signatures at once, recall organizers can turn in petitions as they collect them. Counties are required to submit MONTHLY updates on recall petitions. All counties must submit final recall numbers to the CA Sec. of State no later than

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Feb. 15th --- and on that day the SOS's office will announce whether the recall has qualified. If YES, then the Lt. Governor, NOT the Governor, will set the date for the recall election. In this case, the recall election could be from April 15 to May 5...

...For those CALPEEK readers who have heard those NASTY radio ads blasting Gov. Wilson up one side and down the other, it's NOT this recall group paying for those spots. In fact it is another, separate group of CA public employees who are behind this campaign. This particular group is also angered over the PERS raid and has joined forces with People's Advocate to organize an initative drive to stop the State government from messing with the retirement system. What's usual here is the alliance between a coalition of public employee groups and the anti-tax People's Advocate. In most past campaigns, these allies have been on OPPOSITE SIDES. Organizers of this initiative have hired David Townsend and Wayne Johnson to manage this drive...

...FYI: In case you missed it, Gov. Pete has stepped in it again by vetoing a sexual harassment bill by his 1990 running mate, State Sen. Marian Bergeson(R). In protest, the GOP vice chair of the State Fair Employment & Housing Commission, Milan Smith Jr., RESIGNED. So the word is out that Gov. Pete isn't a SENATIVE, NEW AGE GUY. Stay tuned...

THE CALIF. POLL: JOB PERFORMANCE RATINGS.

Editor's note: Here are the latest figures from the CA Poll on job performance ratings of Statewide Calif. politicial leaders. The sample size is 998, taken between Sept. 19-25. E-G = excellent/good; F = fair; P = Poor/very poor; and N/O = no opinion:

	E-G	F	P	N/O
SOS March Fong Eu	38%	20%	6%	36%
Controller Gray Davis	37%	28%	11%	24%
I.C. John Garamendi	34%	22%	18%	26%
AG Dan Lungren	30%	26%	7%	37%
Gov. Pete Wilson	29%	32%	33%	6%
Tres. Kathleen Brown	25%	21%	8%	46%
Speaker Willie Brown	24%	24%	25%	27%
School Sup. Bill Honig	23%	25%	29%	23%
US Sen. Alan Cranston	19%	31%	39%	11%
US Sen. John Seymour	18%	23%	6%	53%
CA Sen. David Roberti	14%	21%	7%	58%

IS THE CA/NV SUPER SPEED TRAIN A DEAD DUCK?

Supporters of the proposed CA/NV high speed train linking Las Vegas and Southern Calif. are in a state of shock after CA Gov. Pete Wilson(R) VETOED a bill to extend the life of the two-state commission working on the project. There was hardly any opposition to AB 2074 by Assemblyman Tom Umberg(D-Garden Grove) and backers of the plan, especially those in Orange County, felt that the bill was the "safest bet in town."...

...So at the end of the year, the CA/NV Super Speed Train Commission goes out of business unless someone dreams up an idea to keep it going. The commission had awarded a contract to the Bechtel Corp. of S.F. to build the rail project with PRIVATE funding, estimated to be about $5-7 billion, using meg-lev technology. The high-speed rail link would run from Las Vegas to Anaheim...

...So why did Wilson veto the extension bill? In his veto message the governor talked about the lack of funding at the present time. That's true. Bechtel has had problems lining up the financing, but that was expected to change once the economy got back on track. The other reason Wilson cites is "duplication." There's supposedly a Caltrans High Speed Train task force that has been studying a statewide system, but CA/NA sources say it's not a functioning task force...

...What next? The commissioners will meet again in Las Vegas on Nov. 4th. Top item on the agenda may be suggestions on how to keep the project alive. Although the participation of the State of Calif. was nice to have, it's not absolutely necessary. A CALPEEK source says that the State of Neveda could sign a series of joint powers agreements with various Calif. counties along the proposed route – just to keep the commission alive. It should also be noted that NO Calif. taxpayer monies have been expended. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK IS IN NEW (310) PHONE AREA CODE.

Starting November 2nd, CALPEEK's telephone number will be (310)659-0205; and our FAX will be (310)657-4340. You can probably still get through with the old area code for a while. Stay tuned...

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SAN DIEGO'S NEW INDEPENDENT STATE SENATOR LUCY KILLEA COULD HAVE A DEMO CHALLENGER. Last week CALPEEK raised the question of whether State Sen. Lucy Killea(I-San Diego) would have a Democratic challenger in the November 1992 general election. The answer is PROBABLY...

...On Oct. 8, governmental consultant Art Letter went before San Diego County's Demo Central Committee to inform them that he was forming a PAC (Democrats For A Choice) to insure that there is a credible Demo challenger to Killea next year...

...According to Letter, the reaction from the central committee was rather mixed, with about half in favor and half opposed. The big problem is that a credible Demo opponent almost insures the election of a Republican to this State senate seat. Few dispute that claim...

...Letter says that while that may be true, he's looking at a bigger picture and says Killea's actions in Sacramento have hurt the CA Demo Party, as well as the Demo Legislative Leadership. Not only has it hurt the CDP in general, Letter says Killea's lack of political party affiliation hurts the concept of a strong two-party system in Calif...

...The big question, however, is who will challenge the popular Killea? Letter tells CALPEEK that if no one will step forward, he'll run himself. Although he's a Demo, Letter publicly endorsed Pete Wilson in 1990, which he says was a matter of personal choice. He supported the rest of the Demo ticket in 1990. He was probably not the only Demo in San Diego to do this. Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: TERMINAL ILLNESS. Editor's note: Here is an update on Calif. ballot measure activity for 1992...

- CA DEATH WITH DIGNITY ACT - That's what backers call this plan to allow revocable written directive by a mentally competent adult, once diagnosed as terminally ill, to authorize a physician to terminate life in a "painless, humane and dignified manner." The official title is "Terminal Illness. Assistance in Dying." It is a statute requiring 384,974 signatures no later than Mar. 5, 1992 to qualify for the November 1992 ballot. The proponents are Robert L. Risley of Pasadena and Allen K. Briney of Whittier. Risley, an attorney, can be reached at (213)485-8521. He is chairman of Americans Against Human Suffering, Inc. Briney is an M.D. and is the past president of the L.A. Co. Medical Assn...

...If it qualifies, this initiative is sure to be one of the most controversial to ever hit the Calif. ballot. In terms of the specifics, the initiative spells out the procedures for witnessing and revoking the directive; and requesting medical assistance in dying would be specified. The measure would preclude doctors, nurses and health facilities from either civil or criminal liability...

- DEADLINES APPROACHING - Deadline for collecting signatures for two constitutional amendments are fast approaching: Oct. 31 is the deadline for HEALTH CARE by a Stephen D. Schear of Oakland; and Nov. 4 is the due date for GAMING COMMISSION. SPORTS WAGERING. LOTTERY GAMES by Demo Assemblyman Dick Floyd. Both measures need 615,958 signatures. Stay tuned...

UPDATE ON CALPEEK'S CONSULTANTS' DIRECTORY. CALPEEK's Directory of Campaign Consultants is about two weeks away from the printer. A big thanks to those of you who helped support this project by buying advertising to offset the printing and distribution costs. If you're a consultant and haven't returned that questionnaire CALPEEK mailed TWICE, then you're S.O.L. for this edition of the directory. Lots of new consultants and new listing in this 1991-92 edition...

43rd ANNUAL BUSINESS OUTLOOK CONFERENCE. The L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce will host the 43rd annual Business Outlook Conference Nov. 8 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in L.A. Motion Picture Assn. of Amer. Pres. Jack Valenti is the featured speaker and syndicated columnist Jack Anderson is the luncheon keynote speaker. For info and RSVPs (213)629-0619...

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FULL METAL JACKET: WILSON SIGNS MORE GUN BILLS INTO LAW AS GUN LOBBY LOOKS TO 1992. The powerful GUN LOBBY has signaled elected officials that it intends to make the signing of 2 new gun bills by Gov. Pete Wilson into a MAJOR campaign issue for the 1992 primary and general election. John Stoos, the executive director of the 40,000-member Gun Owners of CA said his organization intends to "replace those legislators who voted to violate our rights with ones who will uphold the constitution."...

...Gun Owners of CA, along with the NRA, were very much opposed to the new clean up bill on ASSAULT WEAPONS, SB 263 by State Sen. David Roberti(D-L.A.). The bill has the backing of AG Dan Lungren(R) and gives assault rifle owners another 90 days to register their weapons. CALPEEK sources say the original assault rifle bill is the subject of at least 3 lawsuits now in the courts...

...Another bill on the gun lobby's hit list was AB 618 by Assemblyman Rusty Areias(D-Los Banos), which requires first-time gun-owners to take a firearms safety course. This bill was double-joined to another gun bill and was NOT to have become law until October of 1993. But because Gov. Wilson signed a series of gun bills in the wrong order, AB 618 now takes effect beginning in July of 1993. The signing-snafu also has caused some problems for Ducks Unlimited, gun show operators and for the CA Dept. of Justice. Whether the snafu was deliberate or an accident is not known, but Wilson's actions are said to have angered a number of legit sportsmen who are not necessarily cozy with the gun lobby. Stay tuned...for urgency legislation by the Demo leadership team...

WIPA BREAKFAST WITH DIMARCO & BERNARD. Women In Public Affairs(WIPA) will host a breakfast Oct. 25 with L.A. Co.'s Deputy Chief of Protocol Ginger Bernard and CA Sec. of Child Development & Education Maureen DiMarco. Breakfast from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., ARCO Tower, Yukon Pacific Room, 37th Floor. For info & RSVPs, contact Francis Williams at (213)483-1581...

FACTORY OF FUTURE TOPIC OF CALIF. CONF. A conference examining the CA business climate, the changing role of labor, as well as CA education and training infrastructure, will be conducted Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose and the New United Motor Manufacturing facility in Fremont. Sponsors include the CA Manuf. Assn.(CMA), the CA State Senate & Assembly, the CA Dept. of Commerce, the UAW, and UCLA. Former Labor Sec. James Usury Jr. will keynote the dinner on Oct. 31, and CA Gov. Pete Wilson and CA Sec. of Business, Transp. & Housing Carl Covitz will participate. A number of CA corporations are underwriting this conference. For info, contact Dinah Zehnder at 1-800-824-2640...

MARKETPLACE NETWORK

• MANAGER - GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS. FHP, a leader in the provision of managed healthcare with national sales exceeding $1.2 billion annually, is seeking a manager for our Calif. Region who will track healthcare-related legislation and regulations at the state level, and assist in developing and communicating the company's views to the political/legislative community. Will also be the Region's principal contact with its Calif. regulator, and will prepare and publish a bi-weekly newsletter for management summarizing legislative and regulatory developments. A Bachelor's degree in political science, public affairs, or a closely related field is essential, together with at least three years experience in the legislative/regulatory process, ideally in healthcare. Strong written and oral communication abilities are necessary. Please send resume with note of current salary in confidence to Peter J. Chart, Box GA, FHP Healthcare, 9900 Talbert Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. EOE.

CALPEEK's Marketplace Network is a listing of employer/employee availabilities for those engaged in campaign consulting/PA/PR/govt. relations/lobbying. The cost for each listing is $25 for up to 40 words. Add $5 for each additional 10 words. Send ad copy with advanced payment to CALPEEK's Marketplace, P.O. Box 1468, Beverly Hills, CA 90213. For info (213)659-0205...

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